

Appl. No. 10/623779
Reply to Office action of 09/27/2004

Attorney Docket No. SEUS1

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): An anti-snoring device comprising a compressor and a tube loop, said tube loop being connected to said compressor, and said compressor providing compressed air to said tube loop, and wherein said tube loop has two prongs for administering said compressed air into a sleeping person's nostrils, said prongs loosely entering into said sleeping person's nostrils during use, and wherein said tube loop and said two prongs form a snore-reducing nasal air cannula and wherein said tube loop has a length and a diameter that are adapted to the sleeping person's anatomy so that said tube loop is guided between the sleeping person's head and auricles and abuts against the sleeping person's upper lip and wherein a ring mechanically connects two sections of said tube loop and said ring abuts the sleeping person during use.

~~wherein~~

~~said compressor feeds compressed air through said tube to a nasal air cannula, said nasal air cannula in turn applying the compressed air into a sleeping person's nose.~~

2. (currently amended): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said compressed air is fed through an air humidifier before reaching ~~the said snore-reducing nasal air cannula.~~

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3. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the air humidifier comprises a water bath and a temperature control controlling the temperature of the water bath and hence the degree of air humidification.

4. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tube is long enough so that the compressor may be located not in a bedroom where said sleeping person sleeps but in an adjacent room.

5. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said compressor comprises a control controlling an angular speed of a turbine of said compressor, thereby controlling flow of air through the nasal air cannula.

6. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tube comprises a throttling valve controlling pressure drop across said tube and thereby flow of air through the tube.

7. (currently amended): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a bypass valve running from the tube into ambient in such manner that flow of air through the snore-reducing nasal air cannula is controlled by said bypass valve.

8. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tube comprises an inside diameter of less than 10 mm.

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9. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tube comprises an inside diameter of 4 mm and an outside diameter of 6 mm.
10. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said tube comprises a segment of substantial length exhibiting a widened diameter of 10 to 20 mm.
11. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said tube is long enough so that the compressor may be located not in a bedroom where said sleeping person sleeps but in an adjacent room and wherein said air humidifier is configured in the vicinity of the sleeping person.
12. (original): The anti-snoring device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the compressor and the air humidifier are integrated into one apparatus.
13. (currently amended): An anti-snoring device comprising a compressor, a tube, a Y-junction and a tube loop, said tube loop being connected to said compressor via said Y-junction and said tube, and said compressor providing compressed air to said tube loop, and wherein said tube loop has two prongs for administering said compressed air into a sleeping person's nostrils, said prongs loosely entering into said sleeping person's nostrils during use, and wherein said tube loop and said two prongs form a nasal air cannula and wherein said tube loop has a length and a diameter that are adapted to the

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sleeping person's anatomy so that said tube loop is guided between the sleeping person's head and auricles and abuts against the sleeping person's upper lip and wherein said Y-junction abuts the sleeping person during use.

~~A method for reducing snoring;~~

~~_____ comprising insufflating~~

~~air into the nose of a sleeping person by means of a nasal air cannula.~~

14. (currently amended): ~~The~~ ~~A method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising humidifying said air before insufflating of reducing snoring during sleeping comprising:~~

~~_____ providing a compressor and a tube connected to said compressor;~~

~~_____ providing a snore-reducing nasal air cannula connected to said tube;~~

~~_____ attaching said snore-reducing nasal air cannula to a sleeping person's nose;~~

~~_____ feeding compressed air from said compressor through said tube to said snore-reducing air cannula and thereby to said sleeping person's nose; and~~

~~wherein said snore-reducing cannula comprises an outlet said outlet having a jacket pipe,~~

~~wherein said jacket pipe has an end near said sleeping person's nose and said end is~~

~~configured so that during operation it seals substantially tightly said sleeping person's~~

~~nose, and wherein a nozzle is configured in the jacket pipe, said nozzle allowing blowing~~

~~air toward said end of the jacket pipe near said sleeping person's nose and wherein said~~

~~jacket pipe further comprises an inside wall having a narrowing between said nozzle and~~

~~said end near said sleeping person's nose and then flaring out from said narrowing toward~~

~~said end near said sleeping person's nose and thereby forming a diffuser.~~

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15. (currently amended): An anti-snoring device comprising a compressor and a tube connected to said compressor, wherein said compressor feeds compressed air through said tube to a snore-reducing nasal air cannula and said snore-reducing nasal air cannula in turn applies said compressed air into a sleeping person's nose and wherein said A snore-reducing nasal air cannula comprises,

an outlet said outlet having a jacket pipe, wherein said jacket pipe has an end near ~~a patient's~~ said sleeping person's nose and said end is configured so that during operation it seals substantially tightly ~~the patient's~~ said sleeping person's nose, and wherein a nozzle is configured in the jacket pipe, said nozzle allowing blowing air toward said end of the jacket pipe near ~~the patient's~~ said sleeping person's nose; and wherein said jacket pipe further comprises an inside wall having a narrowing between said nozzle and said end near said sleeping person's nose and then flaring out from said narrowing toward said end near said sleeping person's nose and thereby forming a diffuser.

16. (cancel)

17. (cancel)

18. (currently amended): A snore-reducing nasal air cannula comprising,

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an outlet said outlet having a jacket pipe, wherein said jacket pipe has an end
near a patients' nose and said end is configured so that during operation it seals
substantially tightly the patient's nose, and wherein a nozzle is configured in the jacket
pipe, said nozzle allowing blowing air toward said end of the jacket pipe near the
patient's nose and ~~The nasal air cannula as claimed in claim 15,~~ wherein said jacket pipe
further comprises an inside wall having a -narrowing between said nozzle and said end
near the person's nose and then flaring out from said -narrowing toward said end near the
person's nose and thereby forming a diffuser.

19. (currently amended): The nasal air cannula as claimed in claim ~~15-18~~, further
comprising a measuring tubule fitted with an aperture in the vicinity of said end near the
patient's nose, said measuring tubule allowing measuring pressure in the nose of the
patient.

20. (new): The method of claim 14, further comprising providing an air humidifier and
passing said compressed air through said air humidifier before feeding said compressed
air to said sleeping person's nose.